

THE CLAIMS

The present application includes pending claims 1-36. Claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 are independent claims. Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-27 and 29-36 depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 10, 19, and 28 respectively. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following remarks and arguments.

Listing of claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

receiving at a network device, from one or both of a first access point and/or a first switch, a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information;

responsive to said first messaging protocol message, determining at least a minimum QoS level for operation of one or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and/or a second switch; and

distributing by said network device, QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to one or more of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message, wherein said second messaging protocol message is different from said first messaging protocol message.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising providing access to at least one of a plurality of access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, comprising queuing traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, comprising prioritizing said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, comprising scheduling access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to one or both of said first and/or said second access points.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said distributing comprises distributing said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising allocating bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising balancing a load on one or both of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein each of said first and said second messaging protocol messages comprises one or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.

10. (Previously Presented) A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one code section executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps comprising:

receiving at a network device, from one or both of a first access point and/or a first switch, a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information;

responsive to said first messaging protocol message, determining at least a minimum QoS level for operation of one or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and/or a second switch; and

distributing by said network device, QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to one or more of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message, wherein said second messaging protocol message is different from said first messaging protocol message.

11. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, comprising code for providing access to at least one of a plurality of access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

12. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for queuing traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

13. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 12, comprising code for prioritizing said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

14. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, comprising code for scheduling access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to one or both of said first and/or said second access points.

15. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, wherein said distributing comprises code for distributing said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

16. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, comprising code for allocating bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

17. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 10, comprising code for balancing a load on one or both of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

18. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable storage according to claim 18, wherein each of said first and second messaging protocol messages comprises one or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.

19. (Previously Presented) A system for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one receiver adapted to receive from one or both of a first access point and/or a first switch, a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information;

at least one controller adapted to determine at least a minimum QoS level for operation of one or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and/or a second switch in response to said first messaging protocol message; and

said at least one controller adapted to distribute QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to one or more of said first switch, said first access point, and/or second access point and said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message, wherein said second messaging protocol message is different from said first messaging protocol message.

20. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to provide access to at least one of a plurality of access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

21. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to queue traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to prioritize said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 20, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to schedule access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to one or both of said first and/or said second access points.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to distribute said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to allocate bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to balance a load on one or both of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 26, wherein each of said first and second messaging protocol messages comprises one or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.

28. (Previously Presented) A system for providing network management in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one controller adapted to determine from a first messaging protocol message containing quality of service (QoS) information and received from one or both of a first access point and a first switch, at least a minimum QoS level for operation of one or more of said first switch, said first access point, a second access point, and/or a second switch; and

said at least one controller adapted to distribute QoS information corresponding to said determined at least a minimum QoS level to one or more of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch, using a second messaging protocol message, wherein said second messaging protocol message is different from said first messaging protocol message.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to provide access to at least one of a plurality of access devices based on said distributed QoS information.

30. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 29, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to queue traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

31. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 30, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to prioritize said traffic associated with at least one of said plurality of access devices to maintain said determined at least a minimum QoS level.

32. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 29, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to schedule access by at least one of said plurality of access devices to one or both of said first and/or said second access points.

33. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to distribute said QoS information to at least a portion of the hybrid wired/wireless local area network.

34. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to allocate bandwidth to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

35. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 28, wherein said at least one controller is adapted to balance a load on one or more of said first switch, said first access point, said second access point and/or said second switch to maintain said at least a minimum QoS level.

36. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 35, wherein each of said first and said second messaging protocol messages comprises one or more message selected from the group consisting of an access point status message, access point configuration message, a switch status message, a switch configuration message, a client status message and a device discovery message.